

Appl. No. 10/617,055
Amdt. Dated May 24, 2006
Reply to Office Action Mailed Feb. 24, 2006

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in response to the Office action mailed Feb. 24, 2006. Applicant appreciates Examiner's thorough search and consideration of the application.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant hereby affirms the provisional election made on 02/02/2006 to prosecute the invention of group II, claims 14-16. Furthermore, applicant advises that the election of claims does not affect inventorship of the present application; that is, no amendment of inventorship is required.

Accordingly, claims 1-13 have been withdrawn. Claims 14-16 are amended and currently pending in the application.

Support for the amendments set forth above can be found in the disclosure as originally filed. No new matter is added. However, the claims are not limited to the disclosed embodiments.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 103

It is understood that claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over David D. Lowry (US 6,128,617, hereinafter referred to as Lowry) in view of Robert A. Beatty (US 6,336,053, hereinafter referred to as Beatty).

In response to this rejection, applicant has amended claims 14 and 16 by adding more limitations therein, such limitations being sourced from the originally filed specification of the present application. Applicant has also

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amended claims 14-16 with respect to informalities, and in order to better express the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of the claims, as follows:

Claims 14 and 15

Claim 14, as amended, recites a method for monitoring material on shop floors, comprising the following steps:

selecting a position from a large scale graphic;

displaying a magnified graphic depending on the position selection on the large scale graphic;

refreshing and displaying the two graphics according to selections on the two graphics;

connecting with a central database to read relevant data on the two graphics;

integrating and classifying the relevant data; and

generating a table specific to the two graphics based on the integrated and classified data.

Applicant submits that neither Lowry nor Beatty nor any other cited reference made of record by the Examiner, taken alone or in combination, discloses, teaches, or otherwise suggests the invention as set forth in claim 14 as amended.

Lowry discloses a chart navigation sequence (Fig. 4), and a plurality of charts 72-76 from which a user successively selects individual nodes (Col. 7, lines 45-54). Lowry further discloses a process block 112 which indicates that the user selects a command or graphic control to display information according to the nodes selected during the chart navigation sequence, and that an SQL statement is constructed to obtain the information for display (Col. 7, lines 55-59). According to Lowry, a new chart is created every time the user selects a node from the

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previous chart. However, the present application provides two portions for displaying graphics; that is, a large scale graphic and a magnified graphic. The large scale graphic and the magnified graphic each refreshes itself according to any selection on either the large scale graphic or the magnified graphic (Fig. 2 and para. [0021] of the specification of the present application). That is, claim 14 of the present application does not require creating or popping-up of a new chart once a selection is made. The present invention of claim 14 needs fewer resources to display information of graphics or charts. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that Lowry is substantially different from amended claim 14 of the present invention, at least in relation to displaying and refreshing graphics or charts. That is, Lowry fails to disclose, teach or otherwise suggest the invention having the above-highlighted limitations as recited in amended claim 14. In addition, applicant asserts that Beatty also fails to disclose or teach the limitations as highlighted above.

Further, applicant submits that any combination of Lowry with Beatty does not disclose, teach or suggest the present invention having the above-highlighted limitations as set forth in claim 14 as amended.

Accordingly, applicant submits that amended claim 14 is unobvious and patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Lowry in view of Beatty. Reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of claim 14 are respectfully requested.

Because claim 15 depends directly from independent claim 14, and recites additional subject matter, claim 15 should also now be allowable.

Claim 16

Claim 16, as amended, recites a method of monitoring material on shop floors of workshops of subsidiary companies of an enterprise, comprising the steps of:

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selecting a country from a large scale graphic displaying regional production worldwide by country of the enterprise;

providing a magnified graphic for displaying regional production of the selected country;

tabling integrated data from a database to specify the production information of the selected country;

selecting one of said subsidiary companies from the magnified graphic;

refreshing the large scale graphic to display the selected country and the magnified graphic to display the selected one of said subsidiary companies;

tabling integrated data from the database to specify the production information of the selected one of said subsidiary companies;

selecting one of said workshops from the magnified graphic;

refreshing the large scale graphic to display the selected one of said subsidiary companies and the magnified graphic to display the selected one of said workshops;

tabling integrated data from the database to specify the production information of the selected one of said workshops;

selecting a product line from the magnified graphic;

refreshing the large scale graphic to display the selected one of said workshops and the magnified graphic to display the selected product line; and

tabling integrated data from the database to specify the production information of the product line.

For at least reasons similar and corresponding to those asserted above in relation to claim 14, applicant submits that any combination of Lowry with Beatty does not disclose, teach or suggest the present invention having the limitations as


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set forth in claim 16. Specifically, the combination of Lowry with Beatty does not disclose, teach or suggest refreshing the large scale graphic and the magnified graphic to display different information respectively according to selections on either of them.

Accordingly, applicant submits that claim 16 is unobvious and patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Lowry in view of Beatty. Reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of claim 16 are respectfully requested.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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